

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:POAKLEY:EK

APPROVED BY IO-ROBLAKE

NEA:SSOBER

NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS

IO/UNP:JABAKER

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TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 060038

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PLO, UNRWA, XF

SUBJECT: UNRWA AND PLO

REF: A) STATE 55001; B) BEIRUT 3295; C) BEIRUT 3245;
D) AMMAN 1759

1. USG DOES NOT WANT PLO ISSUE TO ARISE AT ADCOM MEETING
MARCH 21. FOR REASONS CITED PARA3, REFTTEL A, US CONTRI-
BUTIONS TO UNRWA COULD BE JEOPARDIZED AND SECRETARY'S
CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY PLO APPEARANCE
IN ADCOM. EMBASSY SHOULD EXERT EVERY EFFORT IN ADVANCE OF
MEETING TO PREVENT PLO APPEARANCE IN ADCOM. INSTRUCTIONS
WILL FOLLOW FOR USE OF US ADCOM REPRESENTATIVE IN EVENT
PLO APPEARANCE EITHER UNAVOIDABLE, DESPITE EMBASSY'S
EFFORTS, OR SPRUNG ON ADCOM MEETING AT LAST MOMENT OR
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DURING MEETING ITSELF.

2. UNLESS EMBASSY PERCEIVES OVER-RIDING OBJECTIONS, AMBASSADOR SHOULD AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY, BEFORE MARCH 19 MEETING IF POSSIBLE, ASK FRENCH COLLEAGUE IF HE HAS YET UNDERTAKEN CONSULTATIONS MENTIONED PARA 2 REFTEL C. IF NOT, AMBASSADOR SHOULD TRY TO DISSUADE HIM ON PRACTICAL GROUNDS THAT HIS RAISING ISSUE, PARTICULARLY WITH ARABS, MIGHT ITSELF PROVOKE SITUATION WE WISH TO AVOID - INTRODUCTION OF PLO INTO ADCOM. (FOR THIS REASON WE WILL NOT CALL IN AMBASSADORS HERE, AS SUGGESTED REF B.) IF ON OTHER HAND FRENCH ADCOM CHAIRMAN HAS ALREADY RAISED POL ISSUE WITH OTHER ADCOM MEMBERS, HE MAY HAVE SOME FEELING FOR WHETHER OR NOT ISSUE IS LIKELY TO COME UP IN ADCOM. HE ALSO SHOULD HAVE AN IDEA, WHICH WE WOULD HOPE HE WOULD SHARE WITH US, OF HOW HE WILL HANDLE THE ISSUE OF PLO PARTICIPATION IF IT IS KNOWN TO BE COMING UP OR IN EVENT IT IS SPRUNG ON ADCOM UNEXPECTEDLY.

3. IN LIGHT OF OVER-RIDING POLITICAL PROBLEMS, IT WOULD APPEAR IMMATERIAL TO TRY TO SUSTAIN ARGUMENTS IN ADCOM ON ITS LEGAL POWERS RE PLO PARTICIPATION. THRUST OF OUR POSITION DERIVES FROM PRACTICAL PROBLEMS THAT WOULD BE CREATED BY ANY FORM OF PLO ADCOM PARTICIPATION AS THIS TIME. DEPT AGREES WITH FRENCH CHAIRMAN IN OPPOSING CIRCULATION OF LEGAL POSITION PAPER (REFTEL C, PARA 2) ON PLO ISSUE AMONG ADCOM MEMBERS PRIOR TO MEETING. WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE HAVING IT AVAILABLE AS RATIONALE FOR REQUESTING ADJOURNMENT IF PLO ISSUE ARISES.

4. FOR AMMAN: IN LIGHT JORDANIAN VIEWS ON PLO EFFORTS TO REPRESENT PALESTINIANS WITH UNRWA (PARA 6, REFTEL D) YOU SHOULD SEEK ANY FURTHER INFORMATION JORDANIANS HAVE ON POSSIBILITY OF PLO PARTICIPATION AT ADCOM, AND ASK JORDANIANS FOR ADVICE WITH REGARD TO OUR EFFORTS TO AVOID PLO APPEARANCE AT MARCH 21 MEETING AND REPORT RESULTS ASAP. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEETING OBSERVERS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE060038
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: POAKLEY:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750093-0747
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750340/aaaabjnr.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 55001, 75 BEIRUT 3295, 75 BEIRUT 3245
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNRWA AND PLO
TAGS: SREF, XF, PLO, UNRWA
To: BEIRUT AMMAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006